

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant: Sheng-Ping Zhong                      Art Unit: 1615  
Serial No.: 10/777,802                      Examiner: Hasan Syed Ahmed  
Filed: 02/12/04                      Confirmation No.: 5369  
Docket No.: 03-235  
Title: LAYERED SILICATE NANOPARTICLES FOR CONTROLLED DELIVERY  
OF THERAPEUTIC AGENTS FROM MEDICAL ARTICLES

VIA EFS WEB  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Certificate of Electronic Transmission  
Under 37 C.F.R. §1.8

I hereby certify that this correspondence and any document referenced herein are being electronically filed with the USPTO via EFS-Web on February 25, 2009.

Nancy Joyce Simmons  
(Printed Name of Person Sending Correspondence)

/nancy joyce simmons/  
(Signature)

**AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION**

Sir:

This Amendment and Response is being submitted in reply to the Non-Final Office Action mailed December 2, 2008, having a date for response of March 2, 2009. This Amendment and Response is timely submitted.

The Office is hereby authorized to charge the \$52.00 fee for one additional claim to Deposit Account Number 50-1047. The Office is further authorized to charge any other fees deemed to be due, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account Number 50-1047.

Kindly consider the following Amendments and Remarks:

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 7.